

Stories about food, house, government women, may and labor are in Section C. The Charlotte News today, all based on women's interests. Turn to the Women's Section for the latest news on food, house, and fashion.

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## LOW BIDS DEFENDED

# NAIKEE TEXTILE PROPOSALS HIT

By KENETH G. WARREN  
AP Special Washington Service  
WASHINGTON (U. S. —) Rep. George W. Brown (D-Tenn.) said today that he would not support a bill to award government contracts on any basis other than competitive bids. "The national industrial and defense program is being used as a social weapon," he said.

Gore, like North Carolina, insisted that the depression in the textile industry is not related to the mobilization program. He urged that the main purpose of the program be to relieve unemployment in areas affected by the defense program. "The program cannot be applied to the textile industry," he said.

HEINZ COEPLUS FACTS  
Negotiated or cost-plus contracts, he said, caused most of the "hand-dish" of both World Wars and should be outlawed.

State Rep. William X. Wall of Louisiana, state, supported the argument for relief for his community, which is estimated to have the highest percentage of unemployment in the United States. Lawrence is a woolen-worsted manufacturing center.

Wall said, "results from no fault on the part of this community is a condition over which they have no control. If it continues, plants will liquidate and when they are liquidated they will not be there."

New England textile interests are urging allocation of textile orders to regional quota basis. "It is a price differential to offset higher costs over the South. They claim this is necessary to maintain skills needed for defense."

The Southerners say New England employment is due to a long-time trend of textiles from North to South. The South itself faces unemployment because of

## PUBLICITY SHY



Mr. Johnny Hickey, wife of the 45-year-old public agent who used to work for Howard Hughes, has been awarded a divorce after two years of marriage. She said "Johnny insisted on going out every night of our marriage." (United Press Telephoto).

# Steelworkers Seek To Stop Strike April 8

## WSB Head Denies Reduction Asked

By NORMAN WALKER  
WASHINGTON (AP)—Chairman Nathan P. Feinsinger of the Wage Stabilization Board (WSB) told reporters "hell no" today when asked if Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson has asked the WSB to reduce its recommendations for settling the steel case.

He had just left a meeting with Wilson, who has said the WSB's settlement plan, calling for a 17-1-2 cent wage boost, was a serious threat to anti-inflation efforts.

Wilson also talked with Economic Stabilizer Roger Putnam and Price Stabilizer Ellis Arnall. Wilson announced that he would not come plan to help settle the steel labor dispute. A strike of Philip Murray's more than 650,000 CIO steel workers in the basic steel industry is scheduled for April 8.

Arnall left Wilson's office 40 minutes after Feinsinger. As reporters followed him down the corridor, firing questions, he replied:

"No comment... No comment... No comment..."

Wilson declined a request of photographers that they be permitted to take pictures of the meeting. When the request was placed, the cameramen had assumed a joint, four-man meeting was scheduled. Wilson switched from the joint meeting plan to the series of separate, individual talks.

Feinsinger said that Wilson's refusal to meet with the WSB's office of Defense Mobilization refused to confirm or deny that he plans to keep hands off the steel case. He said he is present in hopes of progress in union-management negotiations which started yesterday in Pittsburgh, and resumed today.

The situation was such that it even appeared possible that the WSB would need boots of its own from Florida's vacation in the late afternoon, someone in the mobilization hierarchy may call soon.

One thing appeared certain: The steelworkers will get no wage increase in negotiations with steel firms until the administration makes up its mind. The companies said they will need price boosts of \$12 a ton if they grant the WSB-recommended terms.

Bargaining talks between Murray's union and U. S. Steel Corp. and Jones & Laughlin Steel began yesterday in Pittsburgh, but both sides were unimpressed. Both sides looked to Washington for guidance.

The administration's real task was two-fold: to answer the question (1) whether Feinsinger's WSB over-stepped itself in its suggested wage increase, and (2) assuming a wage boost, whether steel profits require any price boost to keep them in line.

Wilson's fears were based on possible effects to the economy generally, John L. Lewis, his waiting partner, said. Murray does in steel before trying to drive a new wage bargain for coal miners. In short, a new wage pattern is in the making, at least in Wilson's view.

FEAR INFLATION  
Back of that, if steel firms raise prices, a whole host of other industries will be breaking down in the process. Inflation is the fear. In other words, Wilson's group fears a new burst of inflation.

"Feinsinger has said the WSB's proposals... boosts for steelworkers are not only fair but 'uninflationary.' He contends other workers would not be ready to have done as well as Murray's steelworkers, and Murray now is merely 'catching up'."

## MCGRATH POINTS UP TESTIMONY



Attorney General J. Howard McGrath (right) drives home a point as he testifies before a House Judiciary subcommittee in the opening session of an investigation into the case of Joseph C. Duggan, assistant attorney general (United Press Telephoto).

## Might Incriminate Self Senate Probers Excuse Witness

By G. MILTON KELLY  
WASHINGTON (U. S. —) A Senate committee investigating scandal in government farm deals excused a witness today who said he might incriminate himself by testifying.

The witness, Alfred O'Neill, is a former Agriculture Department official. He is currently under investigation for a federal grand jury which is looking into charges that he misappropriated large quantities of wheat stored on his farm near Pawnee, S. D.

O'Neill was sworn as a witness before the Senate Agriculture Committee and then he asked "What you men think about whether he should testify."

Chairman Ellender (D-La.) told him that if he were O'Neill he wouldn't answer questions for fear he might incriminate himself by testifying in the grand jury investigation.

O'Neill was excused, Committee Counsel Paul Catter called him to the witness stand and interviewed O'Neill about the alleged grain shortage.

Ellender promptly excused Goodman as a witness. He said "We are desirous to determine whether the IPR exercised a subversive influence in U. S. Far Eastern policy."

Sen. Allen (R-Vt.) entered a vigorous protest. He said O'Neill's testimony would be a "disgrace" to the American people.

The grand jury is scheduled to start its work on the case today. The grand jury is scheduled to start its work on the case today. The grand jury is scheduled to start its work on the case today.

## U N. Translation Assumes Negotiations Significance

By SAM SUMNERLIN  
MUNICH, Germany (U. S. —) — True negotiators today swapped detailed explanations of how they want to exchange prisoners of war as the U. N. Command openly sought a compromise.

An official Allied spokesman said "neither optimism nor pessimism is justified" at this point in the secret sessions.

In a nearby test Communist temper, they also those Allied with the U. N. Command represents the Korean people.

Korean Col. Chang Chun San, who fled from the North, said "The Americans cannot represent the Korean people." "North Korea Col. Chang Chun San, who fled from the North, said "The Americans cannot represent the Korean people."

Brig. Gen. William P. Nichols, official spokesman, said the translation dispute has been regarded as a mere technicality, but it is taking on some significance.

The Communists want the U. N. Command to be known in Korea as "Allied Forces." The U. N. Command wants to be known as "United Nations Command." One of these is about as close as you can come in Korean to United Nations.

Today's argument was in a session on supervising the truce.

Nichols said both Allied and Communist staff officers working "in prisoner-exchange made 'no prisoner-exchange made' as a necessary well-considered view."

He declined to comment "on what the views are and the extent of their divergence."

"We further explored the Communist proposal of March 21 on armistices and we still have not reached any agreement," said Col. George W. Hickman.

Nichols said the three secret sessions on prisoner exchange have "produced some clarification. He did not elaborate.

"We have been seeking a way to compromise on prisoner exchange. The prisoner exchange negotiations went into executive session today and the Communists made no proposals freely."

Nichols said it would "not be proper to say any more has been made during the past three days, unless clarification of views could be made as proposed."

He added, however, that "the talks are being held with more speed in the last three days."

Hickman said each side is exploring the other's ideas in "free discussions" in the "open-discussion without rancor."

## SILENT PRAYERS

The prayer opening yesterday's session of the Senate in Washington was led in sign language by Dr. Robert C. Fletcher (left) of St. John's Episcopal Church for the Deaf. The prayer was interpreted to the Senators by Dr. Irving Fuzfeld (right) dean of Gallaudet College for the Deaf in Washington. (United Press Telephoto).

## Eight Perish In Farm Fire

SOMERSET, Pa. (U. S. —) — Twenty-eight of their children—baptized to death today in a farm fire at nearby Rockwood, eight miles south of this southwestern Pennsylvania community.

Only Franklin Whipple, 31, one of the seven children, at home at the time, escaped unhurt. He jumped out of a window.

Neighbors said the blaze apparently broke out about 7 a. m. in the three-story frame home of John Whipple, retired coal miner and father of 15.

Flames swept rapidly through the old farmhouse.

Firesmen from Somerset and nearby communities reported the blaze out of control upon arrival. They removed four charred bodies from the ruins but they were so badly burned that identification was not immediately determined.

Dr. C. G. Sayson, Somerset County coroner, reported only a smoldering shell of the house, located about eight miles south of Somerset, was left standing.

Whipple, who retired a few years ago for a heart condition, has been employed as a street worker for Somerset Borough.

## CASUALTIES IDENTIFIED

WASHINGTON (U. S. —) The Defense Department today identified 22 additional battle casualties in Korea in a new list (No. 329) that reported nine killed, 12 wounded and one injured.

## OUR WEATHER

Fair with little change in temperature today, tonight and Friday. Expected high today 75 degrees. Low tonight 35 degrees.

Highest yesterday 65 degrees. Lowest this morning 64 degrees.

Sunrise, 6:17 A. M.; sunset, 6:40 P. M.

More Weather Data on Page 3-A

## HEAVY AIR

How much does air weigh? More than you think. A vertical column of air over a one-acre square, extending up indefinitely from the earth's surface at sea-level, weighs 2,116 pounds. That's the same as the weight of a ton of coal piled on every square foot of the earth's surface. The air in a room 40 ft. by 30 ft. by 10 ft. weighs 110 pounds more than the room's furniture. Most of this weight is concentrated in the lower part of the atmosphere. A plane flying at 18,000 feet has the same weight of air below it as above it.

## Three Persons Killed By Unknown Assailant

MERRIMAN, Neb. (U. S. —) Three persons were said to be dead today in a shooting in a small town in northwestern Nebraska. The slain were a father, a son and a daughter. The assailant was unknown.

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## Three Accused Klansmen Go On Trial In Robeson

LUMBERTON, N. C. (U. S. —) Three Robeson County men went on trial today on charges of belonging to the Ku Klux Klan and a fourth man was to be called to trial later.

A 12-man jury from adjoining Hoke County was sworn in shortly before noon to hear the case.

## Comic Dictionary

WIT  
The man who says what you would have said if you had thought of it.

## Wanted Quick Government Action

By R. K. LIVINGSTONE  
WASHINGTON (U. S. —) Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) testified today he took an interest in a seven-million-dollar tax case against a Baltimore lawyer dealer because he wanted to encourage "quick and proper action" by the government.

In the witness chair before House tax investigators, Bridges suggested that as a member of Congress he should be interested in seeing that the government secured a fair amount of tax and was able to pay the taxpayer.

He has nothing but "official business" in the matter, he declared. Bridges, Senate Republican floor leader, said his interest was "a typical congressional inquiry" made on request. He added: "I handled this case as I handled thousands of others."

Bridges said his attention was

## Jap Parliament Approves Budget

TOKYO (U. S. —) Japan's Parliament today approved a \$2,368,110,000 national budget, the biggest since World War II. The upper house gave final approval on the measure by a vote of 135-79.

Most controversial item was \$500,000,000 for the reconstruction of Japan. It was unconstitutional. The Constitution forbids maintenance of armed forces.

## Bridges Explains Interest In Luiqor Dealer's Case

By R. K. LIVINGSTONE  
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## Evening Prayer

O God, we feel the need of Thy great presence, because of our unworthiness before Thee. We pray Dear Father that Thy presence come near unto us, in our time of trouble, in our sickness and in our distress. Amen.

## Planes, Ships Pound Communists

SEOUL (U. S. —) Stormy weather over North Korea grounded Allied warplanes early today. On the 95-mile battlement only light, squad-size Communist forces were reported.

Far East Air Forces planes mounted 925 sorties Wednesday. The night Japan-based B-29 Superfortresses dropped 10,000 pounds of air-bursting bombs on the front. Light bombers in night attacks knocked out 29 Communist supply vehicles.

U. N. naval aircraft and surface craft pounded both Korean coasts Wednesday. Flots from the U. S. carriers Philadelphia Sea and Valley Forge reported they blasted 250 new gaps in Red rail line.

Carrier-based Marine fighters knocked out a Communist village used as a command post for enemy troops.

The cruisers Manchester and Rochester with escorting destroyers smashed enemy positions along the Eastern Coast.

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